

Dear legislators of North Dakota. I am asking for your support in passing HB 1101 on January 13th.

My Husband William Cave died on April 20, 2024 from taking kratom, leaving behind his 11 year old daughter with no father. Our lives forever changed. Our daughter constantly worried about everybody the moment they dont answer their phone or even being a few minutes later than the time she was told they would be arriving. Constantly thinking the worst has happened. William was under the impression that it was a safe supplement to help with his energy and anxiety because thats what it was marketed as and if you can buy it everywhere then it must be okay. He spoke to two of his doctors and neither of them knew what kratom was but since it was a "supplement" they saw no harm in him continuing to take it im sure this was because they didn't know what it was even though it has taken the lives of many. One Saturday he went fishing as he did every saturday morning but this morning the kratom caused him to pass out while in knee deep water and die, he was pulled out of the water fairly quickly by boaters passing by and CPR was immediately given but despite the life saving measures that were provided by the boaters nor EMS were successful. His last words recorded on his gopro device was "man i feel light headed" before falling foward into the water. There was no struggle to get up, just the moise of water sloshing around until those boaters pulled him out the water. Manner of death accidental. Cause of death Kratom intoxication. His wife, his daughter, his family and friends left with nothing not memories of such a wonderful person who was taken away from the world way to early. He tried many times to stop taking kratom, he would have withdrawal symptoms of someone who was on hard drugs, he would get chills, he would shake uncontrollably, he said it felt like he was going die he was in pain every time he tried to get away from kratom. He didnt know how bad kratom could be until it was too late, no rehab programs that were contacted would accept him, it is after all a "supplement ".

Kratom is unregulated and is readily available for purchase in convenience stores. Kratom should be classified as a drug not as a nutritional supplement. Please support HB 1101 to keep the people of North Dakota safe.

Respectively, Erica Broome